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GEORGIA MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR 37 MONTHS
IN \$236,000 IDENTITY THEFT AND MAIL FRAUD SCHEME

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Kenneth Jones, the Postal Inspector-in-Charge of the Boston Division of the United States Postal Inspection Service, announced that U. S. District Court Chief Judge Paul Barbadoro today sentenced Demetrius Edmond, of Columbus, Georgia, to 37 months in federal prison followed by 3 years of supervised release. Edmond had been convicted of mail fraud and identify theft earlier this year.

Edmond, age 23, committed the mail and identity fraud offenses by causing several federally insured banks to transfer \$236,000 from unsuspecting legitimate account holders' accounts into 19 separate certificate of deposit accounts he had established, through the Internet, at Providian Bank, a federally insured bank located in Tilton, New Hampshire. In perpetrating these frauds he used another person's name and social security number without that person's authority or knowledge.

After Edmond was sentenced, U.S. Attorney Colantuono said: "This was one of the first convictions from our new identity fraud initiative with the United States Postal Inspection Service. It is an example of our commitment to vigorously enforce federal criminal laws that are meant to deter identity theft and related fraud" Assistant U. S. Attorney Arnold Huftalen prosecuted this case.